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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Letzling Heath Area

25X1A

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED 25X1C

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1C

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 11 August 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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25X1A 1.

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[redacted] the camp south of Huetten was occupied to capacity. About 20 T-34 tanks were lined up at the north edge of the quartering area. About 100 trucks were seen nearby. Source again observed the two four-mast radio stations at the northern edge of the camp. Officers and troops seen in Camp Huetten wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. Source did not observe any training activity or exercises.

2. A double-sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets was at the entrance to the camp 1 kilometer north of Born. Troops were maintaining two T-34 tanks on the west side of the highway opposite the camp. Other troops cleaned 6 x 37-mm AA guns in the AAA emplacement 2 kilometers south of Born; and three T-34 tanks were seen at driving practice. About 200 trucks and full-track vehicles were seen at the parking lot east of Born. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen en route to and from the camp.

25X1C

3. On 16 July, the camp south of Hottendorf was occupied to capacity. Newly pitched tents were seen in the east section. Source, therefore, concluded that new troops had arrived. Forty to 50 officers, 8 to 10 sedans and several trucks were seen on a hill, 2 to 3 kilometers south of the camp. Intensive training activity was observed in the training area. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen en route to and from the camp.

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4. On 16 July, the barracks installation at the western exit of the town of Hillersleben was occupied not to capacity by about 500 to 600 troops. Six tanks were seen in an open shed in the west section of the installation, and trucks were parked nearby. Soldiers observed in the barracks area engaged exclusively in fatigue duty. Four T-34 tanks were seen at driving practice in the training area northeast of the installation, and about 30 to 100 troops received instruction nearby.

5. On 16 July, the barracks installation at the eastern exit of the town was occupied not to capacity. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Troops seen in the training area north of the installation engaged in field training and service of the piece drill on four 57-mm AT

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guns. Motor vehicles [] were seen en route to and from the installation.

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6. A three-story brick building, about 50 meters long, was under construction in the area east of the barracks installation at the western town exit.²

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7. At about 10 a.m. on 18 July, 5 tanks, 2 JS tank hulls, 2 trucks and an undetermined number of troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were entrained at the Haldensleben railroad station, the latter in 5 boxcars. []

25X1C

On 13 July, a train of about 20 empty flatcars was seen en route from Haldensleben to Hillersleben. At about 9:30 a.m. on 19 July, a train of 30 SS-type flatcars and flatcars with sideracks was at the Haldensleben railroad station. At about 12:30 p.m. on 19 July, a shipment of 10 SU-122 guns, several trucks and boxcars occupied by troops passed through the Haldensleben railroad station, coming from the direction of Hillersleben. [] At about 6 a.m. on 20 July, a train of about 30 empty flatcars and 2 empty boxcars was seen at the Haldensleben railroad station.³

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8. On 11 July, the Remonte Schule in Gardelegen was occupied by troops wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. Source did not observe any activity in the barracks yard. No heavy weapons were observed. []

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9. On 11 July, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne was occupied by troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. Source did not observe any training activity in the barracks area. Obstacles and practice targets were in the open area north of the installation. []

25X1C

10. On 11 July, the camp near Jaevenitz was occupied to capacity by infantry and tank units. About 150 tents, 12 to 15 low wooden buildings and about 50 vehicles were seen in the camp. Motor vehicles [] were seen entering and leaving the camp.¹

25X1C

[] a trip from Haldensleben to Berlin via Gardelegen-Stendal, determined that empty boxcars were assembled at all the stations through which he passed.⁵

12. Source expressed the belief that, on 17 July, the troop camp in Letzling Heath was occupied to capacity and that it was more heavily occupied than in preceding years but not than prior to the demonstrations in June. Source had the impression that the troops had resumed training. []¹

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1. [] Comment. The information tends to indicate that the known camps in Letzling Heath were occupied as prior to the demonstrations and that training was resumed. See []

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2. [] Comment. The information on the partial occupation of the two installations indicates that units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div probably were at exercises in the Letzling Heath in mid-July.

3. [] Comment. The train, which source observed on 19 July, probably carried units of the 220th Hvy Tank SP Regt of the Eighth Gds Army which, according to reports on transportation, went to Glauchau under shipment-record No 61617. The other movements probably were made in connection with the tank firing practices in the Letzling Heath and involved tank units of the Eighth Gds Army who went to, or returned from, those exercises.




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- 25X1A 4.  Comment. The signal detail in the Remonte Schule is rather safely believed to belong to the crew of the radar station on Hill No 63, north-east of the installation. The Fliegerhorst Kaserne can be carried occupied as previously by units of the 598th Mtz Rifle Regt of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div. See .
- 25X1A 5.  Comment. Another source, from 9 to 11 July, also reported that boxcars were assembled in this area.

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